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1. An airbag module, comprising:

a cover and a reaction housing, wherein the cover or the reaction housing has a plurality of mounting projections and at least one Z-height control tab, and the other of the cover or the reaction housing comprises a skirt with a plurality of windows corresponding to the mounting projections, such that the mounting projections engage the windows to define a Z-height, and the Z-height control tab engaging the skirt to substantially maintain the defined Z-height.

2. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the reaction housing is made of stamped metal.

3. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt at an angle sufficient to prevent substantial Z-height movement.

4. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt generally perpendicularly to the skirt.

5. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the reaction housing comprises the Z-height tab and the reaction housing further comprising a reaction surface.

6. The airbag module in claim 5 wherein the Z-height control tab is aligned generally parallel to a plane extending across the surface of the reaction plate.

7. The airbag module in claim 5 wherein the Z-height control tab is aligned from about 5° to about a 15° angle to the plane extending across the surface of the reaction plate.

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Fig. 3A

8. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the tab is semi-deflectable.

Fig 1, 2
9. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt in a net fit.

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Fig 4
10. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt in an interference fit.

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11. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab is integrally formed in the cover or the reaction housing.

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12. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the skirt has a top edge and the Z-height control tab engages a notch in the top edge.

Fig 3, 4
13. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the Z-height control tab engages at least one window in the skirt.

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Fig 1
14. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the window is a recess in the skirt.

15. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the cover or the reaction housing comprising the Z-height control tab has a perimeter edge and the Z-height control tab projects outward from perimeter edge to engage the other member.

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16. The airbag module in claim 15 wherein the mounting projections extend further from the perimeter edge than the Z-height control tab.

17. The airbag module in claim 1 wherein the reaction housing has a shoulder and the tab is formed from stamping out a section of the shoulder.

(18) An airbag module comprising:

5 a cover having a front panel and a skirt, the skirt having a plurality of windows;
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a reaction housing having a plurality of integrally formed mounting projections, the mounting projections engaging the windows to define a storage volume, the housing further comprising at least one integrally formed Z-height control tab engaging the cover.

10 G 19. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt to maintain a defined Z-height .

20. The airbag module in claim 19 wherein the reaction housing is made of stamped-metal. same
as cl. 2

21. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt at an angle sufficient to prevent significant Z-height movement. " cl. 3

20 22. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt at a generally perpendicular engagement.

23. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the tab is semi-deflectable. same
as cl. 8

25 24. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt in a net fit. " cl. 9

Fig. 4

25. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engages the skirt in an interference fit.

same as
cl. 10

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26. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the skirt has a top edge and the Z-height control tab engages a notch in the top edge.

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Fig. 3, 4

27. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the Z-height control tab engages at least one window in the skirt.

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Fig. A

28. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the window is a recess in the skirt.

cl. 14

Fig. 1

29. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the reaction housing has a perimeter edge and wherein the Z-height control tab projects outward from the perimeter edge to engage the cover.

almost
same as
cl. 15

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31. The airbag module in claim 18 wherein the reaction housing has a shoulder and the tab is formed from stamping out a section of the shoulder.

same as
cl. 17

32. An airbag reaction housing comprising:

a cover having a front panel with a plurality of windows; and

5 a metal-stamped reaction housing having a plurality of integrally formed mounting projections, the mounting projections engaging the windows to substantially maintain a Z-height in a tensile direction, the reaction housing further comprising at least one integrally formed Z-height control tab engaging the cover to substantially maintain the Z-height in a compressive direction.